

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the final office action mailed on October 23, 2004 and the teleconferences between the examiner and the undersigned of February 9 and 19, 2004. All remarks set forth in the first amendment after final filed on December 16, 2003 are incorporated herein by reference.

Applicants believe that the additional amendment to claim 1 traverses all rejections and objections set forth in the previous office action and renders claims 1-3 and 18-30 allowable. An early action so indicating is respectfully requested.

Because the final office action was mailed on October 20, 2003 and the three-month time period expired on January 20, 2004, notwithstanding applicants' timely amendment after final of December 16, 2003, the Patent Office is authorized to deduct the \$110.00 fee for a one-month extension of time from Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

If any issues remain in connection with the allowance of this application, the examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

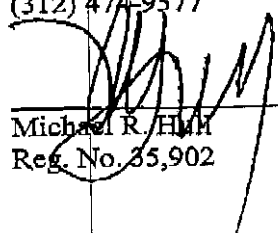
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 20, 2004

By:


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